

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An exposure ~~apparatuses~~apparatus comprising:
 - a first exposure head in which a plurality of light emitting sections which emit light with first intensity are arranged in a main scanning direction and in a sub scanning direction;
 - a second exposure head in which a plurality of light emitting sections which emit light with second intensity are arranged in the main scanning direction and in the sub scanning direction in such a way that an exposure area including an overlapped exposure area overlapping an exposure area of the first exposure head is exposed by the second exposure head; and
 - a driving control unit by which each of the light emitting sections of the first exposure head and the second exposure head is lit at a predetermined timing in such a way that a difference in the maximum exposure amount between pixels adjoining each other in the overlapped exposure area in the main scanning direction is smaller than a difference in the maximum exposure amount between each pixel in the exposure area of the first exposure head and each pixel in the exposure area of the second exposure head.
2. (currently amended): ~~An~~The exposure ~~apparatus~~apparatuses according to claim 1, wherein the maximum exposure amount of each pixel in the overlapped exposure area monotonously increase or decrease in the main scanning direction.
3. (currently amended): The ~~An~~ exposure ~~apparatus~~apparatuses according to claim 2, wherein the maximum exposure amount of each pixel in the overlapped exposure area monotonously increase or decrease in the main scanning direction by changing a ratio between the number of light emitting sections which are lit with the first intensity and that of light

emitting sections which are lit with the second intensity in a plurality of light emitting sections corresponding to the overlapped exposure area.

4. (currently amended): An exposure apparatus ~~apparatuses~~ comprising:

a first exposure head in which a plurality of light emitting sections which emit light with first intensity are arranged in a main scanning direction and in a sub scanning direction; and

a second exposure head in which a plurality of light emitting sections which emit light with second intensity are arranged in the main scanning direction and in the sub scanning direction in such a way that an exposure area including an overlapped exposure area overlapping an exposure area of the first exposure head is exposed by the second exposure head,

wherein the light emitting sections which emit light with the first intensity and the light emitting sections which emit light with the second intensity are provided in a predetermined ratio corresponding to the overlapped exposure area in such a way that a difference in the maximum exposure amount between pixels adjoining each other in the main scanning direction is smaller than a difference in the maximum exposure amount between each pixel in the exposure area of the first exposure head and each pixel in the exposure area of the second exposure head.

5. (currently amended): ~~The An~~ exposure apparatus ~~apparatuses~~ according to claim 4, wherein the maximum exposure amount of each pixel in the overlapped exposure area monotonously increase or decrease in the main scanning direction.

6. (currently amended): An exposure apparatus ~~apparatuses~~ comprising:

a first exposure head in which a plurality of light emitting sections are arranged in a main scanning direction and in a sub scanning direction;

a second exposure head in which a plurality of light emitting sections are arranged in the main scanning direction and in the sub scanning direction in such a way that an exposure area including an overlapped exposure area overlapping an exposure area of the first exposure head is exposed by the second exposure head, and

a driving control unit by which each of the light emitting sections of the first exposure head and the second exposure head is lit with predetermined light emitting intensity and at a predetermined timing in such a way that a difference in the maximum exposure amount between pixels adjoining each other in the overlapped exposure area in the main scanning direction is smaller than a difference in the maximum exposure amount between each pixel in the exposure area of the first exposure head and each pixel in the exposure area of the second exposure head.

7. (currently amended): ~~The An-exposure apparatus apparatuses~~ according to claim 6, wherein the maximum exposure amount of each pixel in the overlapped exposure area monotonously increase or decrease in the main scanning direction.

8. (currently amended): ~~The An-exposure apparatus apparatuses~~ according to claim 7, wherein the maximum exposure amount of each pixel in the overlapped exposure area monotonously increase or decrease in the main scanning direction by changing a ratio of the light emitting intensity of the light emitting sections between the first exposure head and the second exposure head in a plurality of the light emitting sections corresponding to the overlapped exposure area.

9. (currently amended): ~~The An-exposure apparatus apparatuses~~ according to claim 1, wherein a common electrode is provided in such a way that a plurality of light emitting sections which are arranged in a different direction from the sub scanning direction are driven.

10. (currently amended): ~~The An-exposure apparatus apparatuses~~ according to claim 4, wherein a common electrode is provided in such a way that a plurality of light emitting sections which are arranged in a different direction from the sub scanning direction are driven.

11. (currently amended): ~~The An-exposure apparatus apparatuses~~ according to claim 6, wherein a common electrode is provided in such a way that a plurality of light emitting sections which are arranged in a different direction from the sub scanning direction are driven.

12. (currently amended): An exposure apparatus ~~apparatuses~~ comprising:

a first exposure head in which a plurality of light emitting sections which emit light with first intensity are arranged in a main scanning direction and in a sub scanning direction;

a second exposure head in which a plurality of light emitting sections which emit light with second intensity are arranged in the main scanning direction and in the sub scanning direction in such a way that an exposure area including an overlapped exposure area overlapping an exposure area of the first exposure head is exposed by the second exposure head, wherein

in light emitting sections in the first exposure head, which are disposed correspondingly to the overlapped exposure area, number of the light emitting sections which are used for exposure gradually decreases towards the downstream side in the main scanning direction and towards the downstream side of the sub scanning direction, and in light emitting sections in the second exposure head, which are disposed correspondingly to the overlapped exposure area, number of the light emitting sections which are used for exposure gradually increases towards the downstream side in the main scanning direction and towards the downstream side of the sub scanning direction.

13. (currently amended): An exposure apparatus ~~apparatuses~~ comprising:

a first exposure head in which a plurality of light emitting sections which emit light with first intensity are arranged in a main scanning direction and in a sub scanning direction;

a second exposure head in which a plurality of light emitting sections which emit light with second intensity are arranged in the main scanning direction and in the sub scanning direction in such a way that an exposure area including an overlapped exposure area overlapping an exposure area of the first exposure head is exposed by the second exposure head, wherein

in light emitting sections in the first exposure head, which are disposed correspondingly to the overlapped exposure area, light emitting intensity of the light emitting sections which are used for exposure gradually decreases towards the downstream side in the main scanning direction and towards the downstream side of the sub scanning direction, and in light emitting

sections in the second exposure head, which are disposed correspondingly to the overlapped exposure area, light emitting intensity of the light emitting sections which are used for exposure gradually increases towards the downstream side in the main scanning direction and towards the downstream side of the sub scanning direction.

14. (currently amended): An exposure method for exposing a photosensitive material, ~~in which,~~

~~—by using a first exposure head and a second exposure head, the second exposure head in~~
which a plurality of light emitting sections are arranged in a main scanning direction and in a sub scanning direction being arranged in such a way that an exposure area including an overlapped exposure area overlapping an exposure area of the first exposure head in which a plurality of light emitting sections are arranged in the main scanning direction and in the sub scanning direction is exposed by the second exposure head,

~~the photosensitive material is exposed~~exposing the photosensitive material in such that a
~~way that~~ a difference in the maximum exposure amount between pixels adjoining each other in the overlapped exposure area in the main scanning direction is smaller than ~~—a~~ difference in the maximum exposure amount between each pixel in the exposure area of the first exposure head except for the overlapped exposure area and each pixel in the exposure area of the second exposure head except for the overlapped exposure area.

15. (new): The exposure apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the light emitting elements are organic electroluminescent elements.

16. (new): The exposure apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the maximum exposure amount is determined per pixel as a cumulative exposure amount of the first and second exposure head at each pixel.